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MONTANA
Comprehensive Health Planning NEWS

Vol. III No. 1 35 - 11th Avenue Helena, Montana 59601 449-3121 February 22, 1971

ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING JUST AROUND THE CORNER

The State Advisory Council for Comprehensive Health Planning will hold its annual business meeting Friday, April 16, beginning at 9:00 a.m. in the new St. Peter's Hospital in Helena. This will be the first annual business meeting to be held in April - a date agreed upon by the Council and staff as being more productive in terms of Council input into the annual State program.

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CHP AND THE 42ND SESSION OF THE LEGISLATURE

Numerous pieces of legislation either endorsed or actively promoted by Montanans involved in comprehensive health planning are receiving "their day in court" as the 42nd session of the Montana Legislature approaches the time when an extraordinary session might be called. Senate Bill 18, which would require all towns or cities having a population of 1000 or more persons to adjust the fluoride content in their water supplies to a level compatible with maximum dental health and protection, was endorsed by the State Advisory Council last year. This piece of legislation passed the Senate on a 28-26 vote and now is being considered by the House Committee on Public Health, Welfare and Safety. Senate Bill 114, which would require hospitals and long-term care facilities to provide evidence of need - through an application and review process involving areawide health planning organizations - was passed by the Senate and is receiving consideration in the House. Senate Bill 37, introduced by Advisory Council member Gordon Bollinger, Glasgow, which calls for the merger of the Hill-Burton and State CHP advisory councils, was passed once in the Senate on second reading, then re-referred to the Committee on Executive Reorganization. The bill was subsequently endorsed by that committee and passed the Senate 45-8. This bill, like SB 114, is scheduled to receive House Committee consideration Tuesday, February 23. Representative George Darrow, who is also head of the Advisory Council's Environmental Health Committee, introduced a measure, House Bill 66, that would establish an environmental policy for the State which would be aimed at encouraging productive and enjoyable harmony between man and his environment. The bill also aims to promote efforts to prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and to provide for the establishment of an environmental quality council. This bill has passed the House and is now in the Senate Natural Resources Committee. This bill was considered in its entirety by the Advisory Council's Environmental Health Committee and endorsed by the Council this last year. The Environmental Health Committee also endorsed and supported a measure prepared by University of Montana Law Professor Lester R. Rusoff which would place the administration of the Water Pollution Control Act with the Department of Health. This bill, introduced by Representative A. L. Ainsworth, also provides a more precise meaning for pollution and redefines the role of the function of the State Water Pollution Control Council. This bill was signed into law by Governor Anderson on February 10. Of interest to areas of the State who are seeking a local full-time health officer but are unable to attract such, is House Bill 82, introduced by A. A. Zody, which would enable a local health board to appoint a person with a Master's degree in public health or its equivalent and appropriate experience as a local health officer. At present, of course, only an M.D. can be appointed to such a position. This bill has passed the House and is in the Senate awaiting action.

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COMMITTEE WORK BEGINS IN NORTH CENTRAL REGION

Meetings of the facilities, environmental and health planning committees of the North Central Areawide Health Planning organization have been initiated. The Manpower Committee will meet Thursday, February 25. Late last year, the North Central organization determined that it wanted to use a committee system to handle the numerous work activities necessary for an areawide organization.

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DISTRICT FOUR PREPARING GRANT

A team of citizens from the Southwestern Areawide Health Planning Council is preparing a 314(b) application for support of their areawide health planning activities. The group is headed by Dr. Anna Pearl Sherrick, Bozeman. Grace Bates, a member of the State Advisory Council, is assisting the group by soliciting necessary support from local units of

government, and Sister Joan Olden, a health planner operating out of Billings, has been soliciting the support of provider institutions and professional health associations for the areawide organization. The effort is an attempt to get the two Model Cities communities of Butte and Helena to work with the Bozeman area of this region - and with each other - in a joint health planning venture. It is anticipated that the application shall be completed by the end of March.

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STAFF TO PREPARE OVERALL APPLICATION

As was discussed in the last CHP Newsletter, the new Federal CHP legislation makes it possible for the State CHP agency to apply for funds to conduct areawide planning programs. The State CHP staff is now preparing an application for areawide health planning monies, which, if funded, will provide each of the areawides, except the Helena-Butte-Bozeman area, with full-time coordinators, and one professional planner, who, although he would be located in Helena, would have responsibility for providing planning expertise for one of the areawide organizations. The purpose of the grant is to provide those involved in CHP with the necessary expertise to carry out the assessment and priority setting parts of the comprehensive health planning process. In addition, it will provide a basis for a full-time coordinator in each of the regions needing such.

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ABM IMPACT FUNDS MAY PROVIDE VALUABLE INFORMATION

An estimated $12 million in impact money is scheduled for those counties in the North Central Health Planning Region which will be affected by the installation of the antiballistic missile system. According to Lyle Balderson of the Department of Planning and Economic Development, $55,000 of this is going to be used to study the social consequence of this massive investment. Mr. Balderson indicated that preliminary arrangements had been made with a West Coast based firm to do the study. Communications between North Central Health Planning Council, the State Office of CHP, and the firm hired to do the study will hopefully provide the areawide organization with additional information on the health needs of the area.

* * *

HOSPITALS UPSET BY SOCIAL SECURITY REGULATION

According to the latest edition of the Washington Report on Medicine and Health, social security officials have agreed to reconsider a controversial regulation requiring sprinkler systems in Medicare-eligible institutions as a fire safety measure following a meeting last week with Senator Mike Mansfield. According to the report, hospital and nursing home officials had protested that the requirement discriminated against otherwise qualified institutions which had other fire protection devices than sprinkler systems. It is also worth noting that in Montana three Senate Joint Resolutions which deal with this problem have been introduced into the 42nd Legislative session. Senate Joint Resolution 1, introduced by Senator Gordon McOmber, Fairfield, would request the Secretary of HEW to forestall endorsement of these regulations in certain hospitals and to permit the use of alternate fire protection devices. This bill is now in the House Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee. Senate Joint Resolution 6, introduced by Senator John McKeon, Anaconda, requests that the President, HEW and Congress study the effect of the regulations imposed on small, rural hospitals in order for them to receive certification under Medicare revisions. This bill is in the House Public Health, Welfare and Safety Committee, also, as is Senate Joint Resolution 10, which would request Congress to amend the social security act to allow hospitals, extended care facilities, skilled nursing homes and intermediate care facilities to use smoke detection systems where sprinkling systems are now mandated.

* * *

SUPPORT FOUND FOR PLANNER-COORDINATOR IN DISTRICT FIVE

The Inter-Mountain Regional Medical Program, the State Office of Comprehensive Health Planning and the Billings community have agreed to jointly fund a health planner-coordinator to work with the South Central Montana Health Planning Council. Sister Joan Olden has been hired for a two-month period to complete a grant application. The application will be used to apply for IRMP funds which will be matched by state CHP funds. Support from the Billings community will also be included. The funds, if successfully garnered, would establish a full-time planning staff for Area 5. This project is seen, by the participants, as one example of the cooperative efforts possible among RMP and CHP agencies.

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# Comprehensive Health Planning NEWS

Vol. III No. 2 35 - 11th Avenue Helena, Montana 59601 449-3121 May 7, 1971

DENVER APPROVES 314(B) APPLICATION FOR AREA IV

The Denver Regional Office of HEW has approved a 314(B) application submitted by the Southwestern Areawide Health Planning Council for Federal support for the organization's health planning activities in the Helena-Butte-Bozeman area. The grant must now receive approval from Washington, D.C. before being funded. The grant application, approved earlier by the State Advisory Council, calls for a director, two planners, a coordinator and secretarial help. In December of 1970, the Board of Directors of the Southwestern Areawide Health Planning Council established a team to draft the grant and established this activity as its number one priority. The team working on the grant consisted of Mrs. Grace Bates, Manhattan, a member of the State Advisory Council; Miss Anna Pearl Sherrick, a member of the Gallatin County Health Planning Council; Mrs. Shirley Smith, secretary to the Gallatin County Health Planning Council; and Sister Joan Olden, Billings.

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SOUTH CENTRAL COUNCIL SEEKS PLANNING HELP

The South Central Regional Health Council, Inc., has applied to the Intermountain Regional Medical Program, Salt Lake City, Utah, for assistance in its health planning efforts in the Billings area. If approved, support for a health planner for the South Central Council will come from the RMP office, the State Office of Comprehensive Health Planning and from local institutions.

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ADVISORY COUNCIL EXPANDS MENTAL HEALTH PROJECT

At its annual business meeting in Helena, April 16, the State Advisory Council for Comprehensive Health Planning approved a motion by Frank McPhail, M.D., Great Falls, which will enlarge the Council's financial commitment to the mental health assistance project. The project is designed to test the feasibility of training individuals recruited from low-income groups to function as outreach workers for the mental health program.

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SENATE BILL 114 DIES IN HOUSE; SENATE BILL 37 REMOVED BY CHP

Senate Bill 114, which would have required hospitals and long-term care facilities to certify need for construction expansion or modernization through an application and review process involving areawide health planning organizations, was defeated in the House on second reading. The bill will be rewritten between now and the 1973 session by those health interests most concerned, in an attempt to gain consensus on an improved bill. Senate Bill 37, which would have merged the State's CHP and Hill-Burton advisory councils was withdrawn at the request of the Department of Health, because of the passage of the executive reorganization bill, which will accomplish the same thing. At the April 16 Advisory Council meeting, CHP Director Bob Johnson received permission from the Council to work with the Facilities and Executive Committees of the Council to help in bringing about this reorganization. Johnson informed members of the Council that a June meeting was going to be necessary to confirm the work done in consolidation of the two councils, and to approve necessary changes in the bylaws. In addition, the June meeting will also serve as a final review of the work program created by the staff for the coming fiscal year.

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ACTION ON TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS DELAYED

Because of a lack of time involved for study of the numerous recommendations of the task force study on the delivery of health care to low-income people in Montana, the Council stated that it will wait until the June meeting before making recommendations. The Council also requested supportive information from which some of the recommendations were drawn.

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EMCHA ELECTS NEW OFFICERS, RECEIVES REPORT

The Eastern Montana Community Health Association elected new officers at its annual business meeting held Sunday, April 18, in Circle. New officers of the association include: Merle Fitz, M.D., Scobey, President; Gordon Spear, Miles City, Vice-President; Andrew G. Hellstern, Hinsdale, Secretary; and Rev. Will L. Degeraty, Plentywood, Treasurer. Numerous changes in the organization's bylaws were also considered at the meeting and will be submitted to the organization's board of directors at a later time for consideration. "Illness and Medical Care in Eastern Montana", a long-awaited health study, has been completed and is now being studied by interested parties.

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ANNUAL MEETING OF NORTH CENTRAL AREAWIDE HELD MAY 6

The North Central Areawide Health Planning Council met Thursday, May 6, in Fort Benton, at the Fort Benton High School for the organization's annual business meeting. In addition to the election of officers and representatives from various component parts of the organization, reports from those committees which have been meeting regularly were provided. Details of the meeting will be reported in the next edition of the Newsletter.

* * *

SUPPORT BEING SOUGHT FOR SEELEY LAKE PROJECT

An effort is now being made to locate sufficient funds to continue the community nurse project--a project designed to test the health impact of a nurse in a medically isolated community, while also testing the impact of laws governing delivery of health care and of nursing training on nursing capacity to deliver health care. The project has been operating at Seeley Lake since September and as the fiscal year nears an end, support for continuation of the study is needed.

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TWO AREAWIDES LOOKING AT HMO APPLICATIONS

Both the Missoula and Billings based areawide health planning organizations are in the process of preparing applications for monies to study the feasibility of developing what the Nixon administration has come to call a health maintenance organization.

* * *

CHP BECOMES MORE INVOLVED IN FACILITIES PLANNING

The Advisory Council, accepting a suggestion from its facilities committee, has approved a recommendation to hire a facilities planner for the State agency. It has become apparent in recent months that the areawide organizations, with their ever increasing obligations to comment upon and react to local facilities planning efforts, need assistance in making good decisions about development of health facilities of all kinds.

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COUNCIL GIVES OK TO HEALTH HANDBOOK

The Advisory Council has provided approval to a project which calls for the development of a state directory of health services, emphasizing those services available to low-income people. The material will be utilized in a manner which will enable many of Montana's poor to maximize use of the health care delivery system. The educational material is being prepared by VISTA volunteers Richard and Roye Bourke.

* * *

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE WANTS TO EXPAND VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

A project recently approved by the Advisory Council which calls for the use of a cadre of citizen observers to assist the State in monitoring environmental health conditions in the Bozeman area will be expanded to include all areawide organizations desiring the program. A recommendation to this effect was made by Representative George Darrow, chairman of the Environmental Health Committee. Darrow suggested that the recommendation be implemented through the areawide planning committee headed by Norman Taylor, Ph.D., Missoula.

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MONTANA Comprehensive Health Planning NEWS

Vol. III No. 3 35 - 11th Avenue Helena, Montana 59601 449-3121 Aug. 10, 1971

MISSOULA HEALTH COUNCIL RECEIVES FUNDS TO STUDY HEALTH MAINTENANCE IDEA

The Missoula County chapter of the Northwestern Areawide Health Planning Council has received Federal funds to study the feasibility of developing a Health Maintenance Organization in the Missoula area. HEW awarded $55,985 to the Missoula-based organization for the coming fiscal year; the local share of support amounted to $11,686. The funds will be used to study the feasibility of establishing a low-cost, pre-paid health care delivery system that is a collaborative venture between providers and consumers of health care. According to the grant application project summary, the study will focus on extension of the medical services to medically indigent people; involve preventive and educational medical prophylactics; provide a channel for collaboration and cooperation in a presently competitive and fragmented system and finally provide the consumer with a means of influencing the health delivery system.

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SWAHPC FUNDED BY HEW, DIRECTOR AND STAFF HIRED

The Southwestern Areawide Health Planning Council has been awarded a 314(b) grant from HEW for the development of a health planning program in the Helena, Butte, Bozeman area. The program which has also received financial support from Butte and Helena's Model Cities programs has a budget of over $76,000 for the coming fiscal year and will employ two planners, a program director, as well as secretarial and coordination assistance.

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SEELEY LAKE MANPOWER PROJECT ENTERS NEW PHASE

The second year of a two-year study by the State CHP office to determine the impact a nurse can have on the health of a medically isolated community began recently in the Seeley Lake, Ovando, Swan area. This year, however, a major share of the control of the program has been allocated to the SOS Health Center, a legally incorporated organization, which is made up of lay persons from the local area. Funding for the project for the new fiscal year will come from the local community, the State CHP office, Missoula County and the Missoula County High School district. The Board of Directors of the corporation has hired Mrs. Marge Nicholson, formerly of Butte, to replace Miss Elsie Toavs, a Department of Health nurse who was instrumental in setting up the program of services being offered residents in this area. An evaluation contract has recently been signed with the Medical School at the University of Utah. Robert Kane, M. D., a U. of U. staff member, will be the evaluation director. It is envisioned that an interim evaluation report on the Seeley nursing project will be available by November of this year.

* * *

CHP, HILL-BURTON COUNCIL MERGER BECOMES EFFECTIVE IN JANUARY

The merging of the State's Comprehensive Health Planning Advisory Council and the Hospital and Long-Term Care Facilities Advisory Council becomes effective this January. The merger date, which was requested by the office of Executive Reorganization will afford both Councils an opportunity to review proposed bylaws, membership changes, organizational structure and model bylaws being prepared by attorneys working for Executive Reorganization.

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SOUTH CENTRAL HIRES PLANNER

The South Central Regional Health Planning Council, Inc. has engaged the services of Sister Joan Olden, a professional health planner, on a temporary basis for the purpose of initiating that health planning program and locating a permanent staff member. This is a collaborative project between Intermountain Regional Medical Program, Salt Lake City, the State CHP office and the South Central Regional Health Planning Council, Inc.

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MMA NAMES GOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Montana Medical Association's June bulletin carried a story stating that the MMA has named an Ad Hoc Committee on Governmental Relations. Members of this committee include John Newman, M.D., Butte, Chairman; A. M. Fulton, M.D., Billings; L. W. Lehwalder, M.D., Missoula; E. C. Maronick, M.D., Helena; and Wilfred S. Miller, M.D., Whitefish. The group was created as a study committee which will review all programs designed by any group or agency to promote health care and to coordinate all proposals which may be concerned with a delivery of health care, such as health maintenance organizations.

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EVALUATION BEGINS ON GUADALUPE PROJECT

CHP Research Analyst Ted Clack will be working with the South Central Regional Health Planning Council, Inc., to review and evaluate the effectiveness of the Billings Guadalupe Project. This project was launched by the South Central Regional Health Planning organization in collaboration with the Yellowstone County Medical Society as an effort to provide free medical care to the working poor of the Billings areas, who did not qualify for tax supported programs, but are in need of medical services. Dental services have also been offered in this very unique program. Transportation, long a problem among the poor in acquiring access to medical care, has been provided by the Billings area Community Action Program.

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MONTANA HEALTH ASSOCIATION SEEKS NEW IMAGE

A new "action oriented" image is being sought by the Montana Health Association, following a board meeting in Helena, July 28. The association, until this time, has been known largely for its efforts in the field of continuing education for health professionals. It was the general consensus of those present that the association should become involved in the promotion of positive health legislation and that a public stand on issues effecting the health of Montanans should be taken by the association. State CHP Director, Bob Johnson, was appointed by Roland Pratt, association president, to head the group's action committee. State CHP Planning Coordinator Dave Depew will chair the organization's legislative committee.

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MSLIO AND MUIA RECEIVE EMERGENCY FOOD AND MEDICAL SERVICES FUNDS FROM OEO

Two State organizations--Montana State Low Income Organization and the Montana United Indian Association--have each received over $100,000 of Emergency Food and Medical Services money from the U. S. Office of Economic Opportunity. According to State OEO personnel, the funds are to be used to: study, in a collaborative project, the State's present food delivery system for low income people; plan a more effective mechanism for the delivery of food to those in need; and to generate recommendations to the Federal Government for those problems needing federal intervention.

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MSLIO GETS VISTA VOLUNTEERS FOR HEALTH PROJECT

Sixteen VISTA volunteers will begin work on a one-year health project for the Montana State Low Income Organization early this September. The VISTA volunteers, who will be divided between Billings, Butte, Great Falls and Missoula, will be helping low income people achieve a greater understanding of the health care system of which they are a part.

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TASK FORCE AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETINGS BEING CONDUCTED

At the April 16 meeting of the CHP Council, the report of the Low Income Health Task Force was presented. It was the feeling of the Council that the report needed further development. As a result, a meeting of the Personal Health Services Committee was held at which time each recommendation was considered and was assigned for committee action, deferred until a later date or referred to an appropriate agency. Ad hoc committees were established composed of persons recommended as potential sources of expertise. Meetings have been held with an ad hoc committee to discuss recommendations concerning welfare problems; an ad hoc committee to discuss Indian health problems, and an areawide committee concerned with determining the possibility of participation by the five areawide councils in the State in implementation of recommendations concerned with areawide problems. During these meetings the committee members have voiced opinions as to whether the recommendations with which they were concerned are feasible, have made minor changes in wording and structure of the recommendations and have suggested resource people to whom a questionnaire could be sent. These questionnaires ask for assistance in determining areas of duplication and

supplying information regarding starting points for implementation. When the questionnaires are returned to the CHP office, additional meetings will be held to make final decisions as to whether the recommendations should be included in the report. Testimony tapes from hearings held throughout the State have been heard for the purpose of obtaining documentation for the recommendations, to establish a cross reference card catalogue and to determine additional recommendations which have not already been included in the report. It is felt that the report could be strengthened considerably in this manner. Before the October meeting of the CHP Council, a supplemental report will be prepared by a member of the CHP staff which will be an enlargement of the preliminary report submitted by the Low Income Health Task Force. Included with this supplemental report will be separate findings and recommendations for the five areawide districts.

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STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL TO MEET IN OCTOBER

The annual business meeting of the Montana State Advisory Council will be held this October. The Council is being queried for a date in October. This meeting, which was originally scheduled to be held in June, will serve to review the merger of the State's Comprehensive Health Planning and Hill-Burton advisory councils. In addition, officers will be elected for the coming year and the Council will consider the final report of the task force study on the delivery of health care to low-income people in Montana.

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THREE HEALTH PLANNING POSITIONS OPEN IN MONTANA

Southwestern Areawide Health Planning Council (314(b))

Health Planner
Experience and B.A. degree in Health Planning or related area.
Salary: $10,000 to $13,000

Montana Office of Comprehensive Health Planning

Health Planner
Experience and B.A. degree in Health Planning or related area
Salary: $10,000 to $13,000

South Central Regional Health Council, Inc. (Voluntary 314(b))

Planner - Coordinator
Experience and B.A. degree in Health Planning or related area
Salary: $10,000 to $13,000

For further information contact Robert R. Johnson, Director
Comprehensive Health Planning
State Department of Health
Helena, Montana 59601

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COMPREHENSIVE HEALTH PLANNING
STAFF

Robert R. Johnson - Director
David R. Depew - Planning Coordinator
Theodore H. Clack, Jr. - Research Analyst

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MONTANA
# Comprehensive Health Planning NEWS

Vol. III No. 4 35-11th Avenue Helena, Montana 59601 449-3121 Sept. 28, 1971

STATE ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING CANCELLED

The annual business meeting of the Montana Advisory Council for Comprehensive Health Planning, which had been scheduled for October, has been cancelled by the Council's Executive Committee in order to comply with the Governor's executive reorganization plans. These plans include the naming and appointing of State Advisory Councils requested by state agencies later this year. CHP Director, Robert Johnson, indicated that he was hopeful an Advisory Council meeting could be held soon after January 1, 1972. In addition to the election of officers, the meeting will also serve to discuss the new directions made possible by executive reorganization and funding of related programs and the implications of other Federal legislation.

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NORTHWESTERN AREAWIDE PLANS ANNUAL MEETING

The Northwestern Areawide Health Planning Council will meet Saturday, October 30, beginning at 4 p.m. in the Florence Hotel in Missoula to conduct its annual business meeting. The meeting agenda will include an election of officers, reports from individual county components and a report on the Missoula component's Health Maintenance Organization feasibility study.

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STAFF HIRED FOR HMO STUDY

Laurel E. Pease, Ph. D., a former associate professor at the University of Montana, has been hired by the Missoula County Health Planning Council as director of its Health Maintenance Organization feasibility study. HEW awarded $55,958 to the Missoula organization to study the feasibility of establishing a low-cost, pre-paid health care delivery system that would be a collaborative venture between providers and consumers of health care.

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SOUTHWESTERN AREAWIDE HEALTH COUNCIL TO MEET

The newly funded Southwestern Areawide Health Planning Council will hold its annual business meeting in Helena, Saturday, October 16, beginning at 9 a.m. in the Colonial Club, at which time the agency's director and his staff will address themselves to citizen involvement in the implementation of the organization's work program..

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SOUTH CENTRAL ELECTS NEW LEADERSHIP

The South Central Regional Health Planning Council, Inc. has elected new officers to carry on the efforts initiated by Colvin Agnew, M. D., a Billings radiologist. Replacing Agnew as chairman of the health planning organization is Jay Kirkpatrick, Ph. D., a professor of physiology at Eastern Montana College. Mrs. Miriam Sample, Billings, and Donald E. Peterson, D.D.S. of Billings were elected vice-chairmen. Mrs. Mary Jane Petterson was elected secretary and Arthur Lamey, Jr. was elected treasurer. At the annual business meeting which was held in Billings, September 16, Craig Whitney was introduced as the organization's health planner. Funds for the support of Craig Whitney's activities are the result of a collaborative project between the South Central Regional Health Planning Council, Inc., the State CHP office and the Intermountain Regional Medical Program, centered in Salt Lake City.

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DENVER REGULATIONS MANDATE POPULATION BASE FOR 314(b)

In a letter to CHP Director, Robert Johnson, James Ver Duft, Regional CHP Director, has declared that in the future all areas applying for federal support for Comprehensive Health Planning will need a population base of at least 100,000 people.

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MSLIO LEADERSHIP CHANGES

The Montana Statewide Low Income Organization elected new officers in Helena, Saturday, September 25. Dallas Howard, Missoula, will succeed Kenneth Daniels, Great Falls, as Chairman of the organization; Larry Trochie, Chinook, was elected Vice-Chairman; and Sheri McClellan, Superior, was elected Secretary. In related action, the organization passed a motion to collaborate with the Montana United Indian Association and the Hill County CAP Agency, all of whom have received similar Emergency Food and Medical Services grants, in the development of a coordinating committee.

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SOS BOARD SEEKING NEW SOURCES OF FUNDING

The State CHP Office's Seeley Lake manpower project--an examination of the relationship between nursing training, the law and a nurses capacity for having a health impact on a medically isolated community--is scheduled to be concluded at the end of this fiscal year. The community, however, is enthusiastic about continued support of this program, which has brought, for the first time, many new health services previously only received miles away. At a meeting of the Seeley-Ovando-Swan lay board, held at the SOS Health Center, September 13, the State CHP Office and Charles Painter, a representative of the Missoula County Commissioner's Office, discussed funding alternatives once State support was terminated. The community board agreed that it should first test community attitudes on the use of a rural development district to support this service. If implemented, this would entail the development of a tax-supported service to make up the difference between what is earned by the Center and what is needed to make the Center operable.

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VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS QUERIED ABOUT MEETING WITH CHP

All of Montana's voluntary health associations have been queried by the State CHP Office to see if these agencies could benefit by a meeting with the State CHP Office to discuss CHP and its relation to voluntary health associations. All voluntary agencies responding have indicated a desire for this meeting. A definite meeting date will be set within the near future.

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FACILITIES MEETING NEEDED

The need for understanding the role and responsibility of areawide planning in the distribution of federal money to health facilities and for commenting on the most effective development of all health facilities in an area, has promoted the State CHP Office, in collaboration with the State Medical Facilities Division, to begin preparations for a facilities-oriented meeting with all areawide board members. Changes in these roles are developing as federal legislation changes and as the Governor's plans for executive reorganization become implemented. To quote an editorial by Doctor John S. Anderson, Executive Officer of the Montana State Department of Health, "Under the Plan for Executive Reorganization the Hospital and Medical Facilities Advisory Council will be merged into the State Comprehensive Health Planning Advisory Council."

"In the future, project applications for Hill-Burton funds will be reviewed both by the State Comprehensive Health Planning Advisory Council and the appropriate areawide Comprehensive Health Planning Agency."

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STATE CHP STAFF ENLARGED

During the month of September, four persons were added to the State CHP staff. James Toner, a graduate of the University of Southern California's graduate program in Comprehensive Health Planning, was hired to direct the State's health manpower and service planning tasks. In addition, assistant planners Charles Atkins, Nelson Jackson and Neil McMahon were added to the staff through the State's involvement in President Nixon's Emergency Employment Act.

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MONTANA
# Comprehensive Health Planning NEWS

Vol. III No. 5 35 - 11th Avenue Helena, Montana 59601 449-3121 Dec. 30, 1971

NOMINATIONS FOR CHP COUNCIL APPROVED, MEETING DATE SET

Governor Forrest Anderson has approved the nomination of 39 people to serve on the newly formulated State Advisory Council for Comprehensive Health Planning; the state CHP Council was re-established as a result of the Governor's executive reorganization plan. The first meeting of the newly organized council will be Thursday, February 10, beginning at 10 a.m. in the conference room of Helena's St. Peter's Hospital. At this meeting, officers will be selected for the Council, committee appointments will be confirmed, roles and relationships will be discussed, and a training committee will be selected to work with the staff in preparing an on-going program of training in comprehensive health planning for state board members. Nominees for the new Council include:

Art Anderson, Salt Lake City
Jessie Bierman, M. D., Lakeside
Jack Carlson, Helena
George W. Clark, Missoula
Roderic R. Gudgel, Helena
Bryce Hughett, M. D., Billings
William Leary, Helena
Alex S. McAllister, Kalispell
A. C. MacDonald, D.D.S., Glendive
Virgil Miller, Great Falls
Emma Peterson, R.N., Lewistown
John Pfaff, M. D., Great Falls
S. C. Pratt, M. D., Great Falls
Charles C. Walter, Ft. Harrison
Grace Bates, Manhattan
Edna Best, Billings
Emmett Carey, Glendive
Paul Carpino, Missoula
George Darrow, Billings
Milo Dean, Great Falls
C. J. Filz, Hamilton
Don Foster, Lewistown
Frances Gosney, Great Falls
Dallas Howard, Missoula
Matt Himsl, Kalispell
Mrs. L. R. Jourdonnais, Missoula
Lt. Gov. Thomas Judge, Helena
Sharon Juelfs, Great Falls
John Jutila, Ph. D., Bozeman
Alfred R. Lane, Sidney
Don Pizzini, Great Falls
Charles Painter, Missoula
L. B. Preston, Sheridan
Arlyne Reichert, Great Falls
Anita Richards, Seeley Lake
Miriam T. Sample, Billings
Norman Taylor, Ph. D., Missoula
William Tindle, Butte
Kathryn Turcotte, Havre

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MERGER OF FACILITIES COUNCIL CHP COUNCIL BECOMES OFFICIAL

Governor Anderson has made official the merging of the State's Hill-Burton and CHP Advisory Councils. In the past, the State's Hospital and Medical Facilities Division of the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences has taken its recommendations for the distribution of federal monies sought for hospital and long-term care facility construction, alteration or remodeling to a separate advisory council. The merger will enable members of the CHP Council's facilities committee to perform this function and report their recommendations to the Council. These recommendations will then be given to the State Board of Health, which remains the final authority in the decision-making process as it relates to the distribution of federal Hill-Burton funds.

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OFFICERS ELECTED AT NORTHWESTERN AREAWIDE MEETING

Alex McAllister, Kalispell, was elected president of the Northwestern Areawide Health Planning Council at the areawide group's last meeting. Other officers include: Dean Jellison, vice-president, Kalispell; William Norman, M.D., secretary, Missoula; and Dorothy Patch, treasurer, Alberton. C. G. "Pat" McCarthy, M. D., Missoula, and immediate past president, was elected as a member at large to the Board of Directors. At an earlier meeting of the Missoula component of the areawide organization Jim Parker, Mrs. Martha Hemingway, M. J. Law, M.D., Art Crandall, William Norman, M.D., Ross Hunt, and Donna Hatton were elected to represent Missoula County on the areawide board. The areawide organization cancelled its December 11 meeting because of weather.

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DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH REORGANIZED

The Governor has made official the reorganization of the Department of Health and Environmental Sciences. The department, which prior to reorganization had nineteen divisions, now has

six major divisions, which include Laboratory, Administration, Planning, Hospital and Medical Facilities, Environmental Sciences and Health Services Divisions.

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APPLICATION FOR COOPERATIVE GRANT HAS FEBRUARY DEADLINE

The State CHP agency working in cooperation with areawide health planning groups is developing a statewide 314(b) application to be submitted to the Regional Office for CHP in Denver by February 1. This grant application will seek local, state, and federal funds to support community efforts to plan for health. The grant is made possible through an extension of P.L. 89-749 which provides funds for health planning on an areawide basis and which allows the state to apply for these funds. Areawide organizations participating are being asked to contribute $5000 apiece and letters of recognition of this effort.

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INFORMATION PROJECT INITIATED BY CHP

In recent months Montana's United Indian Association, Montana State Low Income Organization, and the Hill County CAP Agency have received money for Emergency Food and Medical Services Programs. The purpose of these particular grants was to examine and document examples of how the food delivery system to low income people could be improved. The state CHP office working in collaboration with these entities has made available through the "Emergency Employment Act" staff assistance to these programs with the specific task of assisting in the coordination of the three projects, and of gathering all data which has been prepared by governmental entities, private organizations and other groups. The information gathered is to be used to assist all parties concerned in their efforts to modify and change existing systems which relate to the well being of a Montanan. Walt Foster, the man responsible for this new activity, will also be responsible for identifying the gaps between the stated purposes of agencies dealing with health and what actually the agency is able to deliver.

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FIRST IN SERIES OF FACILITIES MEETINGS HELD

The first in a series of meetings designed to provide the ability to comment on facility construction was held in Helena for areawide council members this last month. Ted Clack, CHP staff member, stated that this first meeting was just to acquaint the necessary participants with state and federal programs. Subsequent meetings will deal with objective assessment of need, developing a common procedure for review and obtaining community support for objective decisions.

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NORTHCENTRAL BOARD MET IN FORT BENTON

The Board of Directors of the Northcentral Areawide Health Planning Council met in Fort Benton on Monday, December 13. The board formally adopted executive committee recommendations to participate in the state's efforts to fund areawide planning staffs with a federal grant.

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SOUTHWESTERN AREAWIDE HIRES DIRECTOR

James Foley, former director of Lewis and Clark County's Children and Youth Project, has been hired by the board of the Southwestern Areawide Health Planning Council to replace Tyrone Busch as director of Montana's only 314(b) agency. Foley comes to his position with a wealth of information on organizing and on the area he and his staff are to serve. Foley is a native of Butte and has lived in Helena most of his life.

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VOLUNTARY ASSOCIATIONS TO MEET WITH CHP IN FEBRUARY

Earlier this year all of Montana's voluntary health associations were queried by the State CHP office about the advisability of a joint meeting with the State CHP Advisory Council and its staff to discuss enlarging cooperative efforts. Most organizations responding indicated a desire to meet together in January or February. This meeting will take piace Wednesday, February 9, beginning at 10 a.m. in the conference room of Helena's St. Peter's Hospital.

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